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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food & Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket # 98N-1038, "Irradiation in the Production, Processing, and Handling of Food"

To Whom it may concern:

The FDA should retain the current labeling law, the current terminology of "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation," and the use of the radura symbol on all irradiated whole foods. In its initial petition, the FDA concluded that irradiation was a "material fact" about the processing of food, and thus should be disclosed. The material fact remains; therefore, labeling should remain. Consumer acceptability, storage qualities and nutrients are affected. Some irradiated food have different texture and spoilage characteristic than untreated foods. Most fruits and vegetables have nutrient losses that are not obvious or expected by the consumer.

It is a simple matter of freedom of choice. Give us, the American public a choice as to what we want to put into our bodies and bodies of our children.

Sincerely,



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